

Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 IO-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-05 BIB-01 SAJ-01 (ISO) W

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R 151315Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1179

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR,UR, KN

SUBJ: SOVIETS SUPPORT NORTH KOREAN STATEMENT

1. PRAVDA'S INTERNATIONAL WEEK MARCH 14 CARRIED A SHORT AND PERFUNCTORY PARAGRAPH ON THE RECNT NORTH KOREAN STATEMENT ATTACKING ALLEGED U.S. AND SOUTH KOREAN "PLOTS AND PROVOCATIONS". PRAVDA REPORTED THAT THE WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS, PUBLISHING THE STATEMENT, SAID THAT THE RECENT INCREASE IN THE NUMBERS OF U.S. FORCES IN SOUTH KOREA RAISED TENSIONS ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA AND CONSTITUTED A "SERIOUS THREAT" TO PEACE AND SECURITY.

2. THIS PRAVDA TREATMENT FOLLOWED A ROUTINE IZVESTIYA COMMENTARY MARCH 11 WHICH REITERATED THE MAIN POINTS OF THE NORTH KOREAN LETTER OF MARCH 4, LINKED U.S. MILITARY SUPPORT FOR SEOUL WITH THE "NEW PACIFIC DOCTRINE" AND REITERATED SOVIET SUPPORT FOR THE "KOREAN PEOPLE'S

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STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENT PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION."

3. COMMENT. BOTH ITEMS ARE LOW-KEY IN PROVIDING THE
MINIMUM NECESSARY SOVIET SUPPORT FOR THEIR NORTH
KOREAN ALLIES.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, FOREIGN RELATIONS, SECURITY, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, THREATS, MILITARY POLICIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MOSCOW03885
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760098-0203
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760360/aaaacbby.tel
Line Count: 66
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 MAY 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <31 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIETS SUPPORT NORTH KOREAN STATEMENT
TAGS: PFOR, UR, KN, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006